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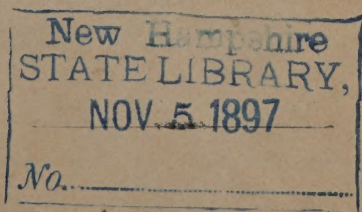
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RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
OF THE
TOWN OF STRATHAM,

FOR THE
Year ending March 3, 1862.

ALSO THE
REPORT
OF THE
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.



EXETER:
PRINTED BY T. J. WHITEM, AT THE BALLOT OFFICE.
1862.

JOHN W. LITTLE & CO.

NEW YORK

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RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

OF THE

TOWN OF STRATHAM,

For the year ending March 3, 1862.

Account of Collector, Levi Chase.

Amount of tax committed to him for collection, \$3,113.26

COLLECTOR CHASE'S DISCHARGE.

Paid State tax	260.40
County tax	656.40
Selectmen in cash	2,046.34
Non-resident highway tax worked out	34.46
By abatements of taxes of sundry persons	39.66
By three per cent discount	44.62
Collector, for services	31.13
For sending State tax to Concord	25
	\$3,113.26

Stratham, March 3, 1862.

This day examined the foregoing accounts of Collector Levi Chase, and find them fairly brought, rightly cast, well vouched and balanced.

GEORGE H. ODELL, }
JOS. S. STAPLES, } *Auditors.*

Money received by the Selectmen.

Received cash of the Selectmen of 1860	722.83
Literary fund for 1861	63.40
Rail road tax for 1861	111.03
of County for support of County poor	328.75
of Collector Chase	2,046.34
	\$3,272.35

Selectmen's Discharge.

OUTSTANDING DEMANDS.

Paid School Commissioner for Teachers' Institute 1860	14.00
J. O. Wiggin, enrolling militia in 1860	3.00
A. Boardman, abatement on horse, cow and sheep in 1860	1.00
J. G. Cate, on account	39.11
J. O. Wiggin, postage in 1860	75
P. Folsom, breaking roads in 1860	15.48
J. French " " "	14.69
C. Wiggin " " "	14.90
Z. Wiggin, goods for M. Healey	43
G. Barker, work on stone for bridge	3.67

Paid Z. Wiggin, supplies for J. Hodgdon	6.00
J. G. Cate, on account	25.00
J. P. Morse, pauper notice	4.06
L. Stevens, nursing Olive Mason	5.00
J. G. Cate on account	50.00

 \$197.09

Roads and Bridges.

Paid N. M. Barker, breaking roads	7.50
D. Marston " "	16.41
George P. Hoag " "	24.86
" " " repairing bridge	3.00
W. G. Brown, breaking roads	12.62
E. Chase Jr., work on highway	4.37
" " " breaking roads	22.81
R. B. Smith " "	22.01
W. Clark " "	22.99
D. Marston " "	2.59
R. B. Smith " "	1.87
A. Luey, work on bridge	3.72
A. Wiggin, breaking roads	12.41
D. W. Hodgdon, breaking roads	13.13
J. J. Lane, for land and moving wall	31.00
D. W. Hodgdon, building wall and bridge	22.25
P. Folsom, breaking roads	10.37
A. A. Gage, land and moving wall	12.75
C. Wiggin, breaking roads	15.75
D. Marston, work more than tax	1.43
J. O. Wiggin, lumber for bridge	10.58
R. B. Blake, breaking roads	1.37
Z. J. Wiggin, breaking roads	5.35
N. B. Jenness " "	27.76
A. Davis, land taken for highway	4.50
B. F. Clark, breaking roads	24.33
A. M. Sanderson, work more than tax	2.35
" " " breaking roads	34.76
O. B. French " "	32.99
D. S. Norton, stone for bridge	4.05
J. G. Mallard, breaking roads	33.75
B. D. Loughton " "	.93
J. H. Dearborn " "	4.38
C. A. Wiggin " "	5.58
J. T. & Benaiah Wiggin, breaking roads	8.37
A. N. Rollins " "	4.37
J. W. Rollins " "	7.38
M. Cheney " "	2.00
E. Chase Jr. " "	34.00
J. G. Cate " "	15.05
J. French " "	28.45
J. French, railing bridge	2.00
N. M. Barker, breaking roads	16.50
J. Ladd, railing road	4.00
D. P. Scott, railing road	23.17

Balance

Paid R. B. Smith, work and stone for bridge	1.42
J. Bean, work on highway	2.25
E. Barker, breaking roads	14.17

 \$619.65

Schools.

Paid H. P. Wingate, for district No. 1	201.85
J. B. Wiggin " " " 2	201.85
N. M. Barker " " " 3	201.85
J. F. Wiggin " " " 4	201.85

 \$807.40

Committees.

Paid H. P. Wingate, Prudential Committee No. 1	3.00
J. B. Wiggin " " " 2	2.00
N. M. Barker " " " 3	3.00
J. F. Wiggin " " " 4	4.00
B. D. Laighton, Superintending Committee	20.00

 \$32.00

School Houses.

Paid repairs on school house district No. 1	14.87
" " " " 2	4.50
" " " " 3	33.11
" " " " 4	4.00

 \$56.48

 \$895.88

Sundry Expenses.

Paid D. Sinclair, mending glass in Jackson Hall	80
Z. Wiggin, use of Post Office	2.00
J. S. Chase, for gravel	3.00
George Lane, for scraper	63
T. J. Whitem, printing town accounts	12.00
J. G. Cate, on account	25.00
J. G. Cate, benefit of town farm	10.00
G. H. Odell, medical attendance on S. Pottle	10.00
D. Wiggin, repairing cart	4.00
J. G. Cate, benefit of town farm	15.00
J. W. Moulton, books and stationery	2.79
Town of Barrington, support of S. Mason	4.00
A. A. Gage, support of M. A. French	52.00
J. F. Whidden, lettering guide board	87
J. Emery, damage to wheel	2.50
M. J. Shaw, support of M. Hoag	17.00
M. A. Upton, under law in aid of volunteers	46.00
E. J. Plaisted " "	10 00
C. L. Bride " "	7 00
J. W. Rollins, cow for town farm	25.00
Town of Exeter, tax on town farm	15.46
E. M. C. Lane, wood for Mrs. Huntress	4 00
Volunteers, as per vote of town	500 00
J. O. Wiggin, enrolling militia	3 00
D. S. Norton, watering trough	3 00

J. O. Wiggin, postage	60
S. Scammon, abatement on horse	63
G. E. Lane, services as Town Clerk	6.00
" " " recording in record book	2.25
" " " " tax list	3.00
" " " paid Dr. Odell, recording	1.05
" " " recording marriages and deaths	1.42
" " " express, stationery and postage	45
" " " taking care of Jackson Hall and fuel	2.50
C. Wiggin, surplus interest	40
J. French, abatement, being overrated	7.10
G. H. Odell, medical aid to poor	50.00
J. W. Rollins, services after auditing	4.00
J. Kimball " " "	5.75
E. A. Pickering, abatement	1.32
J. O. Wiggin, Selectmen's expenses	4.00
" " " services as Treasurer	7.00

 \$871.62

1861	Town of Stratham to James W. Rollins	Dr.	
Mar. 18,	To going to Town Clerk's to make return on check-list		50
	appointing clerk for school district No. 1		50
April 3,	one day taking inventory		1.25
8,	going to Exeter on Town business		50
11,	going to Newmarket on a pauper case		1.50
12,	one day and evening making assessment		1.25
13,	attending Jury meeting		25
25,	one evening arranging Surveyor's books		50
27,	one evening in session		50
May 8,	going to J. O. Wiggin's and Wm. G. Brown's		75
20,	making taxes		6 00
25,	1-2 day widening highway		50
Aug. 17,	widening road against land of A. Gage		75
Oct. 24,	going to Wm. G. Brown's and posting warrants for town		
	meeting		75
Nov. 23,	going to John O. Wiggin, and J. J. Lane in relation to road		50
1862			
Jan. 10,	attending Jury meeting		50
Feb. 22,	one evening in session		50
24,	going to Geo. E. Lane's with check-list		50
28,	one day at Town Farm		1.00
Mar. 1,	1-2 day in session		50
3,	Auditing Town accounts		1.00

Rec. Payment,

\$20.00

JAMES W. ROLLINS.

1861	Town of Stratham to John O. Wiggin	Dr.	
March 5,	To preparing accounts for printing		50
6,	going to Exeter with accounts		75
9,	revising check-list		50
Apr. 3, 4, 5,	taking inventory		3.75
12,	making assessment		1.25

Apr. 13,	attending Jury meeting	25
20,	going to Exeter	50
24,	Rollins & Brown	50
27,	one evening in session	50
30,	preparing and distributing Surveyor's books	2.00
May 8,	writing warrants and going to Brown's	75
	recording tax book	2.00
	preparing Collector's book	75
17,	L. Merrill's and Exeter	75
25,	half day widening road	50
27,	L. Merrill's and Exeter	75
29,	Portsmouth on Town business	1.50
July 1,	Town Farm on account of Mrs. Mason	33
8,	Rollins' and Exeter	75
August 3,	Rollins'	25
5,	Town Farm	25
10,	Rollins' and Farm	33
17,	widening roads	50
	returning same	50
24,	writing warrants	75
Oct. 4,	Jury meeting	25
10,	Portsmouth	2.00
11,	taking affidavits	3.00
Nov. 23,	going to J. J. Lane's	25
1862		
Jan. 10,	Jury meeting	25
24,	Exeter	75
Feb. 22,	one evening in session	50
28,	one day at Farm	1.00
March 1,	half day in session	50
3,	auditing	1.00

Rec. payment,

\$30.66

JOHN O. WIGGIN.

1861	Town of Stratham to Wm. G. Brown	Dr.
March 18,	To going to G. E. Lane's	50
Apr. 4, 5,	two days taking inventory	2.50
12,	one day and evening in session	1.25
30,	distributing Sur. books	50
May 23,	going to Town Farm	50
25,	widening highways	50
28,	Greenland on Town business	33
Sept. 2,	one day getting bridge stones	1.25
7,	going to J. O. Wiggin's and Levi Chase	50
9,	" " " " " D. W. Hodgdon	50
Aug. 17,	widening highways	50
1862		
Feb. 22,	one evening in session, and posting warrants	50
28,	one day at Town Farm	1.00
March 1,	going to Levi Chase and J. O. Wiggin	75
3,	one day auditing accounts	1.00

Rec'd payment,

\$12.08

STRATHAM, March 3.

WILLIAM G. BROWN.

Recapitulation,

Outstanding demands	197.09
Roads and bridges	619.65
Schools	895.88
Sundry expenses	871.62
Selectmen's bills	62.74
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Expenditures	\$2646.98
Cash in hands of Selectmen	625.37
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Whole amount received	\$3272.35

STRATHAM, March 3, 1862.

This day examined the foregoing accounts of the Selectmen, and find them fairly brought, rightly cast and vouched; and a balance of six hundred twenty-five dollars thirty seven cents in their hands.

\$625.37

G. H. Odell
Jos. S. Stanley } *Auditors*

County Poor.

Paid Z. Wiggin, supplies for M. Healey	43
A. A. Gage, support of M. A. French	52.00
M. J. Shaw, " M. Hoag	17.00
G. H. Odell, medical aid	30.00
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	\$99.43
From the Farm	225.00
Due from County \$80.	

Notes Outstanding against the Town.

Heirs of Jewett Wiggin	280.00
Phebe French	980.00
J. Burleigh	335.00
B. H. Jewett	160.00
Other claims	350.00
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	\$2,005.00

Means of Payment.

Cash in Selectmen's hands	625.37
Note of hand	112.00
Due on bond	100.00
Due from County	80.00
" " State	63.00
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	\$980.37
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Amount of Town debt	\$1124.63

Town Farm.

Expenditures	478.05
Cash from the Town	25.00
Superintendent's services	200.00
Labor	16.00
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	\$719.05

Receipts.

Receipts from Farm	337.11
Support of County poor from Farm	225.00
Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Moore and N. Mason for wood	24.77
Supplies for Mrs. Huntress	2.00
Stock more than last year	15.00
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	\$603.88
Balance against the Farm	<hr/>
	\$105.17

GENERAL REMARKS.

The whole number of paupers supported at the Almshouse the past year is 17; average number 8 1-12. At this time there are 8. Their names and condition are as follows:—Joshua Wiggin, the oldest proprietor, is some 65 years old, partially insane and incapable of performing but very little labor; yet he is by far the best of Town boarders.

Benjamin Mason, some 54 years old, is worthless for labor, is constantly complaining, and whether very sick or not, doubtless suffers extremely.

Sarah Mason, some 80 odd years old, performs no labor, but has the use of her tongue in all its pristine power, and she employs it constantly to the great annoyance of all with whom she comes in contact.

Mary Hoag, nearly 80 years old, performs no labor, is always in hot water—needs a great deal of watching, and she too is an adept in the use of the unruly member.

John Moore, perhaps 75 years old, performs no labor, and though to keep him clean and comfortable requires a great amount of disagreeable labor, he is quiet, peaceable and uncomplaining.

Mehitable A. Huntton, some 45 years old, is in a great measure deprived of the use of her limbs, but has the full use of her tongue; she has a room and fire by herself, and rarely leaves her room.

Miss Johnson, some 30 years old, is an Irish lady, who, not liking her quarters at the Exeter Almshouse, emigrated to ours. Not having had the green of the Emerald Isle entirely rubbed off, she is of but little benefit as a house maid.

Emma Pottle, 11 years old, is a very good girl, and would doubtless suit any family who might be in want of a girl of that age.

The health of the inmates of the Almshouse since March last, has been as good as we could expect such people as are described above to enjoy.

We are of opinion that Mr. John G. Cate, our Superintendent, is an industrious, economical and judicious manager; and we have secured his services for another year. His wife is a worthy and capable woman, and his daughter smart as a trap.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES W. ROLLINS,	} <i>Selectmen</i> <i>of</i> <i>Stratham.</i>
JOHN O. WIGGIN,	
WM. G. BROWN,	

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

For the Year ending March, 1862.

DISTRICT No. 1.

HENRY P. WINGATE, *Prudential Committee.*

Teacher of the Summer school, Miss Lydia J. Nichols. This school appeared to good advantage at the several visits of the Committee. Good order prevailed, and the exercises in the various branches were well performed. The teacher seemed desirous of discharging her duty, and apparently took much pleasure in promoting their advancement. At our last visit, it was evident that considerable progress had been made.

The Winter school was taught by James T. Jackson. Mr. J. is a teacher of much experience, and knows how to discharge his duties. Patience, which is one of the most desirable qualifications in a teacher, is a distinguished trait in his character. No school can fail to improve under the management of so able a master; hence a decided improvement was observable at the last examination of the school.

DISTRICT No. 2.

JAMES B. WIGGIN, *Prudential Committee.*

Teacher of the Summer school, Miss Ellen M. Tucker. Miss T. is an efficient and thorough teacher, and labors hard for the good of her pupils. Patience, energy and other traits of character—the qualifications of a good teacher—she possesses to a large degree. On examination, at the close of the term, the scholars acquitted themselves well, a decided advancement being apparent. The Winter school was under Harrison Philbrick. The school appeared tolerably well during the several visits of the Committee, and the exercises in the various studies were respectably performed; some of the scholars showing considerable proficiency. A disposition on the part of some of the scholars to profit by their advantages was manifested, and accordingly some progress was observable.

DISTRICT No. 3.

NATHAN M. BARKER, *Prudential Committee.*

Teacher of the Summer school, Miss Jennette Gerold. Miss G. no doubt used her best endeavors to do her duty, and in a measure was successful.

Had she evinced more zeal, we think she would have been still more successful. It was evident, at the close of this school, that the scholars had made considerable improvement.

The Winter school was under the control of Henry F. Brown. Mr. Brown's qualifications as a teacher, in a literary sense, are decidedly better than the average of teachers. It was apparent that he labored unremittingly for the improvement of his scholars. That he succeeded in his efforts to a commendable degree was clearly discernable at the close of the school. His comparative inexperience and generous disposition, however, were unhappily taken advantage of at times, and the school in consequence did not reach that eminence which otherwise it would have attained.

Joseph DISTRICT No. 4.

JAMES F. WIGGIN, *Prudential Committee.*

Teacher of the Summer school, Miss Abby S. Drake. Miss D. evidently understood her duty, and was well qualified to advance her pupils. The school, though small, appeared well, and good order prevailed. The exercises in reading, spelling and other studies, were very satisfactory, and the scholars evinced a disposition to improve.

The Winter school was under the care of Benjamin F. Sanborn. This school, like that kept through the summer, was comprised of but few scholars, as the table will show, being much less than in either of the other districts. Mr. S. possesses the requisite amount of energy and ability to perform his duty well, and accordingly kept a good school. The exercises in reading, spelling, arithmetic and other branches, were creditable both to the teacher and scholars.

REMARKS.

The Committee, would observe that our schools during the past year, regarded as a whole, have been fully up to their average standard. We cannot, however, permit the opportunity which offers to pass, without calling the attention of Prudential Committees to the importance of employing teachers of experience and known ability. Teachers may possess the requisite amount of book learning, and yet possess not the art of governing well. The town expends no small amount of money for the education of our youth, and great care and judgment should be used in making a judicious outlay of the same. Your Committee also would call the attention of Prudential Committees to the fact that the law requires of them a return of the Registers at the end of each term, and a certificate from the Superintending Committee to the effect that they have been faithfully kept and the blanks properly filled, before payment shall be made to teachers for their services. The looking-up of the Registers after the close of the schools by the Superintending Committee, and the finding of them deficient on account of the negligence of teachers,

which is a matter of no uncommon occurrence, subjects him to considerable annoyance.

The Committee, while visiting the several schools, could not fail to perceive that the course of instruction which preponderates is not sufficiently practical. It is of paramount importance that our children should learn that which they will have occasion to use when they shall have fairly entered upon the active duties of life. In the education of a child, that preparation which will be most effective is most deserving of consideration. The study of Physiology, for instance, might well be delayed till a later period. The time bestowed upon this study, as well as upon some others which might be named, could be better devoted to the elementary branches. Are not teachers and parents apt to embarrass the pupil by overloading him with too many implements of toil, only a few of which he can ever be expected to use with skill and advantage? Is it not wiser to equip him thoroughly with the few which he needs first and most in his practical walks in life, and teach him to use these with strength and dexterity? He will, if he needs others, at some future day, make them for himself. Particular attention should be given to the simple elementary branches, and others which do not enter into the practical every day life of the great body of the people, should be less cared for. Reading, writing, orthography, grammar, geography and arithmetic, which lie at the foundation of a good education, should always be regarded as of vital importance, and accordingly receive most attention. Much is said respecting the discipline of a school. Not a few persons talk as though that alone was the only essential to a good school. "Does the teacher keep them in the traces?" "Does he thrash them as much as he ought to?" These questions are frequently asked. Your Committee would observe that the disposition to tyrannize too frequently shows itself in the actions of the teacher. The object of punishment is, or should be, the reformation of the offender. Does the teacher always regard it in this light? May not the feeling of revenge be uppermost in his mind? We think we have seen a display of this feeling. Teachers should govern themselves before they teach their pupils the art of self government. We regard it as a bad sign for the permanence and beneficence of any power when there is much clamor and excitement about it. In a school governed by frequent whippings and loud talk, there is not so much power at work as in a school where through respect for the teacher, things go on quietly, as it were without direction. Instruction and discipline should be so blended as not to attract notice as separate powers. It should be the aim of the teacher to keep his scholars so constantly employed and so interested in the exercises in progress, that they will have no time for anything else. Discipline in such a case is not thought of, it takes care of itself. Nevertheless, we are far from being insensible of the fact, that one or more of our schools contain a number of turbulent, refracto-

ry, evil spirits, whose highest ambition, it would seem, is to create a disturbance in the school. They manifest no respect for the teacher, and are lost to all sense of decorum and even decency. These semi-barbarians prove a stumbling-block in the path of progress. They study only to keep the school in a constant turmoil. This effected, they are in their element—the height of their ambition is reached. This riotous clique should be made to understand in the beginning, that the spirit of insubordination with which they are filled must be crushed. How is this to be done? Shall the teacher resort to the cowhide? We will not object to this, if a persuasive policy prove unavailing. Experience, however, in a majority of cases, goes to show, that where one evil spirit is driven out by the beating process, the way is opened for the ingress of double the number expelled, and possession taken accordingly. In order to make a good scholar of a disorderly one, the teacher must exert himself to gain his respect and confidence; these secured, he will be found perfectly pliable. If all attempts to subjugate the offender fail to reform him, and it becomes evident that he is determined to persist in wrong doing, his continuation in the school-room will produce a corrupting influence, and is therefore undesirable. The proper remedy in such a case is expulsion from school. The quicker he is made to evacuate the premises the better for all concerned.

Again, the cooperation of parents and guardians with the Committee and teachers has been invoked by the Superintending Committees from time immemorial. But with what effect? Such appeals, with but few praiseworthy exceptions, are universally disregarded. How, we would ask, are our citizens to know that our school money has been wisely expended, unless they interest themselves in this matter? Why do not parents visit the schools frequently to see for themselves whether the teacher is worthy of his hire, and their children improving in their several studies? Is it not strange that they avoid the school room as if they feared contamination? They should visit the schools as often as possible, and thereby qualify themselves to speak understandingly and from what they know with respect to their progress and condition. There is no class of men who have a stronger interest in the education of their children than farmers, and everything connected with the subject should be regarded with the deepest interest. Your Committee would improve the occasion, to again call attention to our old, badly constructed, and in one or more cases, distressingly dilapidated School Houses. The scholars must of necessity suffer great inconvenience by being subjected to such miserable accommodations. It is to be hoped that the time is not far distant, when School Houses shall be erected and finished on a scale which will reflect credit upon the town. Our taxes and expenses of living being very burdensome, and owing to the unhappy state of our national affairs likely to become still more so, it is not expected, however much it may be desired, that the

town will consent to burthen itself with the expense incident upon a change, just now. In view of the state of things at present existing, we only design that our townsmen shall keep this subject—that of erecting and furnishing School Houses according to modern improvements—fresh in their minds, resolved to avail themselves of the first favorable opportunity—and if it come not speedily, then to create the opportunity—to pull down—a very slight outlay of physical strength will effect this—the old structures, and to put up instead, handsome and convenient buildings, and which, to say the least, will compare favorably with some of the best *barns* in our town!

We would remark in conclusion, that nature undoubtedly has been as prodigal to us as to any other people in giving our children genius and capacity. Is it not then our duty and interest to cultivate their capacities and render them serviceable to themselves and the community? It was the saying of a wise orator and statesman, that “the loss which the Commonwealth sustains by a want of education, is like the loss which the year would suffer by the destruction of the Spring.” If the bud be blasted, the tree will yield no fruit. If the springing corn be cut down, there will be no harvest. So if our youth be ruined through a fault in their education, the community sustains a loss which cannot be repaired.

Annexed is a table of statistics connected with the several schools, &c., for the year now closing.

All which is respectfully submitted.

BENJ. D. LAIGHTON, Sup. Sch. Com.

STRATHAM, March 1, 1862.

Table of Statistics, &c.

DISTRICTS,	1	2	3	4	Total.
Weeks kept in Summer,	15	16	13	14	58
Weeks kept in Winter,	13	15½	13	14	55½
No. of Scholars in Summer,	45	41	42	17	145
No. of Scholars in Winter,	43	39	38	17	137
Average attendance, Summer,	35	32	33	12	112
Average attendance, Winter,	31	31	28	11	101
Wages of Male Teachers per month, including board,	\$34	\$30	\$35	\$34	132
Wages of Female Teachers per month, including board,	\$18	\$19	\$18	\$17½	72½
Amount of Local Funds,					
Am't of income from Literary Fund,					63.30
Amount of School money raised by Town,					744.00
Whole amount of School money,					807.40
Visits by Superintending Committee,	7	6	7	6	26
Visits by Prudential Committee,	1	2	2		5
Visits by citizens and others,	8	75	48	13	144

List of Text Books.

Sargent's Standard Readers, Town's Speller and Definer, Tower's Series Grammar, Cornell's Series Geography, Colburn's and Holbrook's Mental Arithmetics, Greenleaf's Com. School and Nat. Written Arithmetic, Davies' Elementary Algebra, Davies' Legendre's Geometry, Weld's Parser, Comstock's Philosophy, Cutter's Physiology, Payson's, Scribner's and Dunton's Writing Books, Goodrich's United States History, Mayhew's Book-Keeping.

New Hampshire State Library



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